POL 23-9 GREECE

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

POL 23-8 ER

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
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STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS PARIS 17102

SUBJ: FRANCE AND GREEK COUP

1. FRENCH PRESS HAS REPORTED DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST GREEK MILITARY COUP D'ETAT IN PARIS IN RECENT DAYS., ON APRIL 24 FIGARO REPORTED 250 GREEKS TRIED TO PARADE IN FRONT OF GREEK EBASSY CARRYING SIGN SAYING "LONG LIVE FREE GREECE." ON APRIL 25 LE MONDE REPORTED A MANIFESTATION IN FRONT OF GREEK EMBASSY ORGANIZED BY YOUNG COMMUNISTS AND GREEK STUDENTS. COMMUNIST SENATOR AND POLITBUREAU MEMBER JACQUES DUCLOS THEN LED DELEGATION WHICH ENTERED EMBASSY. AFTERWARDS DEMONSTRATORS TANGLED WITH POLICE AND ONE WAS ARRESTED.

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2. IN ADDITION DEMONSTRATIONS, PRESS REPORTS COMMUNIQUES PROTASTIN MILITARY TAKE-OVER HAVE BEEN ISSUED BY FEDERATION OF NATIONAL EDUCATION, BY THE CONFEDERAL BUREAU OF THE COMMUNIST LABOR UNION CGT, BY A LEFT-WING PRO-GAULLIST GROUP CALLED THE "SECRETARIAT OF THE 29" (WHICH INCLUDES NAMES SUCH AS LEO HAMON AND EMMANUEL D'ASTIER DE LA VIGERIE), BY THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER JEWISH RESISTANTS, AND BY THE SECOURS POPULAIRE FRANCAIS. IN ADDITION, LEFT-WING FEDERATION DEPUTY ENTIER HAS REQUESTED THAT FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OPEN DEBATE ON GREEK SITUATION, AND COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEETING IN STRASBOURG REPORTEDLY IS CONSIDERING AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION WHICH DEPLORES SUSPENSION IN GREECK OF CONSTITUTIONAL LEGALITY. FINALLY, IN FIGARO OF APRIL 25 ARTICLE BY PRESTIGIOUS JOURNALIST RAYMOND ARON ENTITLED "TRAGEDY IN GREECE" CRITICIZES BOTH MILITARY AND KING BUT MORE IN SADNESS THAN ANGER, AND CONCLUDES THAT DESTINY OF GREECE INTERESTS ALL EUROPEANS BECAUSE OF WHAT GREECE IS AND WHAT IT SIGNIFIES.

3. AFTER WEEKLY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING APRIL 26, FRENCH MIN-INFORMATION SAIS COUVE DE MURVILLE HAD NOT MENTIONED GREEK EVENTS DURING MEETING, BUT RECALLED THAT GOF DID NOT HAVE TO MAKE ANY FORHAL ACT OF RECOGNITION SINCE THE CONSTANT POLICY AND DOCTRINE OF FRANCE ARE TO RECOGNIZE STATES AND NOT REGIMES.

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